

What is Tour de Pologne?

The Tour de Pologne is a huge bicycle stage race held in Poland (and sometimes small parts in Italy). It consists of seven or eight stages and is usually around 1,200 km in length. The international cycling association, the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), made Tour de Pologne part of the UCI Pro Tour, and part of the UCI world ranking calendar.

History

Poland got dependent in 1795, and stayed so more than hundred years, until the end of World War I. So, the Polish people did want to celebrate the new independence and 1928, at its 10th anniversary, Tour de Pologne, a sport festival like Tour de France was held the first time.

Until 1939, Tour de Pologne was held 5 times. Then, because of World War 2, Tour de Pologne had a break and started again in 1947.



But then, it got very popular and was held every year up to 2012. In 2005 it even became a member of the new foundation "UCI Pro Tour", an association of world's greatest Bicycle Races, including even Tour de France.

Now, 2013 the 70th Tour de Pologne is going to be held, an anniversary celebrated with two stages in Italy, the first outside country.

Points and T-Shirts

Every stage, the 1st gets 20 points, the 2nd 19 points, the 3rd 18 points... and the 20th gets 1 point. At the end of the race, the winner is the participant with the most points. But during the race, the most-points-participant has the honor to wear one of the four winning T-Shirts. Following table shows the winning T-Shirts and who gets them.

T-Shirt	You get it for
Yellow	the shortest time in general
Red	most activity (best time in checkpoints)
Pink	the most points in mountains
Blue/2005+ White	The most points in general

The Tour

Every year there is a different Tour. Following is a map of the upcoming.

